

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A data reproducing device for reproducing data recorded in a data storing disk,

said data reproducing device comprising:

a pickup unit for reading a copy protection information which is written in advance as a surface shape such as slits or corrugations in a region over a substrate of said data storing disk other than a data storage region; and

a copy protection unit adapted, when an encrypted data over the data storage region of said data storing disk is copied in response to a demand of an external device, to perform an authentication with reference to the copy protection information read by said pickup unit thereby to output the information, as contained in the copy protection information and relating to a secret key, to the external device which is recognized to be correct through the authentication.

Claim 2 (Original): A hard disk comprising:

a disk having a copy protection information written in advance as the surface shape such as slits or corrugations in a pre-recording region over a substrate other than a data storage region;

a pickup unit for reading the copy protection information over said disk; and

a copy protection unit adapted, when an encrypted data over the data storage region of said data storing disk is copied in response to a demand of an external device, to perform an authentication with reference to the copy protection information read by said pickup unit thereby

to output the information, as contained in the copy protection information and relating to a secret key, to the external device which is recognized to be correct through the authentication.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Original): A data reproducing device for reproducing data recorded in a data storing disk, comprising:

a magnetic head for reading a program which is magnetically recorded in advance in the region over a substrate of a data storing disk other than a data storage region; and

a reproduce control unit for reproducing the program recorded in the region, through the magnetic head at the time of reproducing the data from the region over the substrate of said data storing disk other than the data storage region.

Claim 6 (Original): A data reproducing device for reproducing data recorded in a data storing disk, comprising:

a magnetic head for reading a program which is magnetically recorded in advance in a region over a substrate of a data storing disk other than a data storage region; and

a reproduce/record control unit for reproducing the program recorded in the region, through said magnetic head at a time of reproducing the data from the region over the substrate

of said data storing disk other than the data storage region, and for recording a program or data in the region through said magnetic head at a data recording time.

Claim 7 (Original): A hard disk comprising:

a disk having a program magnetically recorded in advance in the region over a substrate other than a data storage region;

a magnetic head for reading the program which is recorded in the region over said disk; and

a reproduce control unit for reproducing the program recorded in the region, through said magnetic head at a time of reproducing the data from the region over said substrate of said disk other than the data storage region.

Claim 8 (Original): A hard disk comprising:

a disk having a program magnetically recorded in advance in a region over a substrate other than a data storage region;

a magnetic head for reading the program which is recorded in the region over said disk; and

a reproduce/record control unit for reproducing the program recorded in the region, through said magnetic head at a time of reproducing the data from the region over said substrate of said disk other than the data storage region, and for recording a program or data in the region through said magnetic head at a data recording time.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (New): The data storing disk used in the data reproducing device according to any one of claims 1, 5 and 6 wherein

a secret information is written in advance as the surface shape such as slits or corrugations in the region over a substrate other than a data storage region.

Claim 12 (New): The data storing disk used in the hard disk according to any one of claims 2, 7 and 8 wherein

a secret information is written in advance as the surface shape such as slits or corrugations in the region over a substrate other than a data storage region.

Claim 13 (New): The data storing disk used in the data reproducing device according to any one of claims 1, 5 and 6 wherein

a program is magnetically recorded in a region over a substrate other than a data storage region.

Claim 14 (New): The data storing disk used in the hard disk according to any one of claims 2, 7 and 8 wherein

a program is magnetically recorded in a region over a substrate other than a data storage region.

Claim 15 (New): The data storing disk according to Claim 11, wherein the secret information is a copy protection information.

Claim 16 (New): The data storing disk according to Claim 12, wherein the secret information is a copy protection information.

Claim 17 (New): The data storing disk according to Claim 13, wherein the secret information is a copy protection information.

Claim 18 (New): The data storing disk according to Claim 14, wherein the secret information is a copy protection information.

Claim 19 (New): The data storing disk according to Claim 11, wherein a program or data is capable of being magnetically recorded/reproduced in/from the region over said substrate other than the data storage region.

Claim 20 (New): The data storing disk according to Claim 12, wherein a program or data is capable of being magnetically recorded/reproduced in/from the region over said substrate other than the data storage region.

Claim 21 (New): The data storing disk according to Claim 13, wherein a program or data is capable of being magnetically recorded/reproduced in/from the region over said substrate other than the data storage region.

Claim 22 (New): The data storing disk according to Claim 14, wherein a program or data is capable of being magnetically recorded/reproduced in/from the region over said substrate other than the data storage region.